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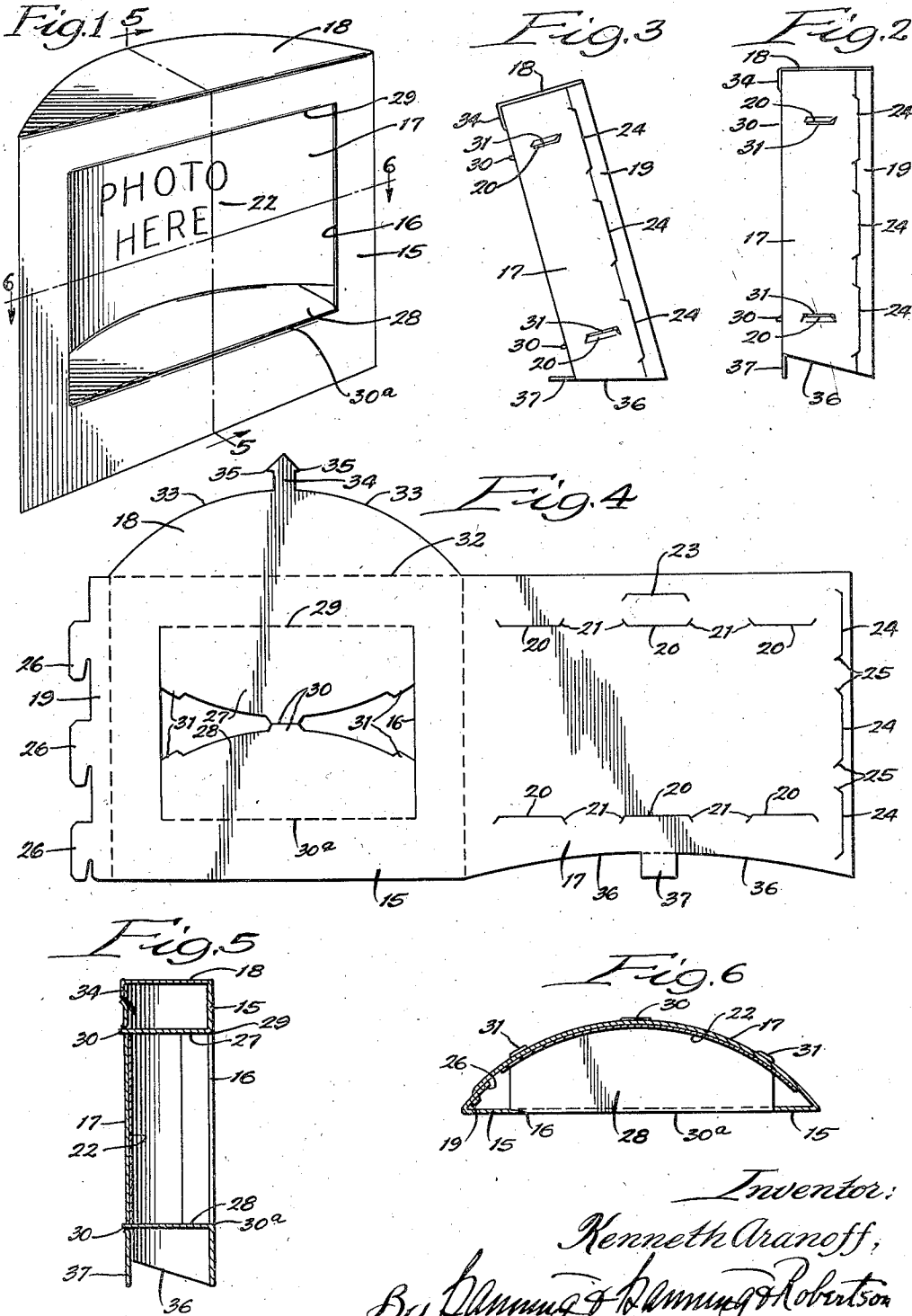
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2,428,772

PICTURE DISPLAY FRAME

Filed May 14, 1945

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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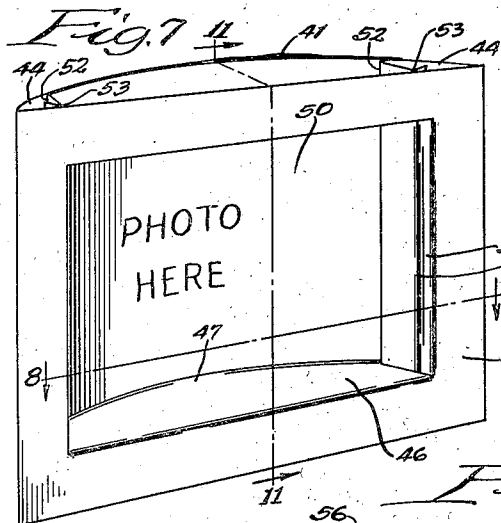
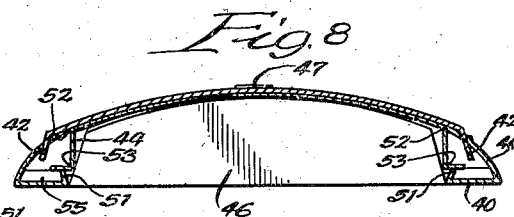
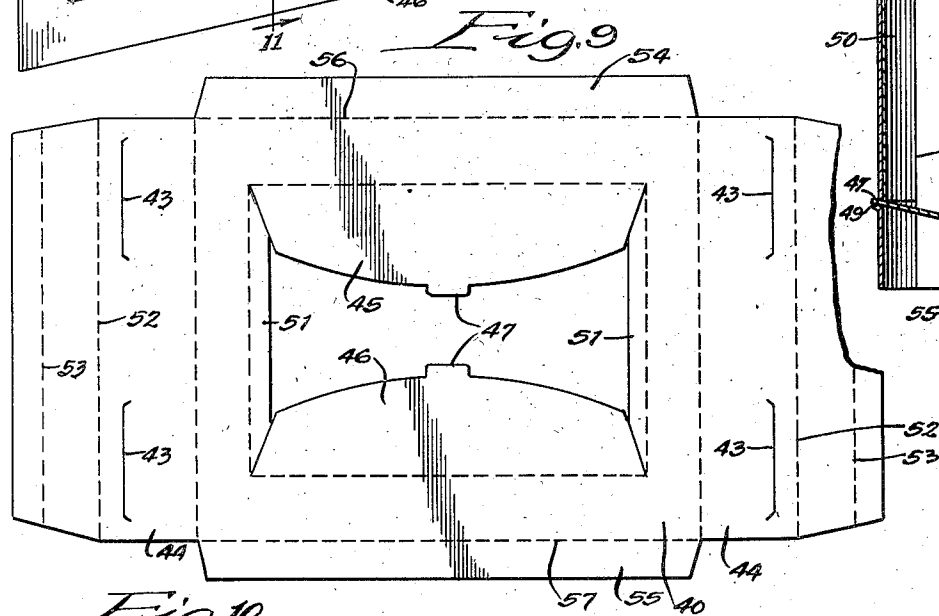
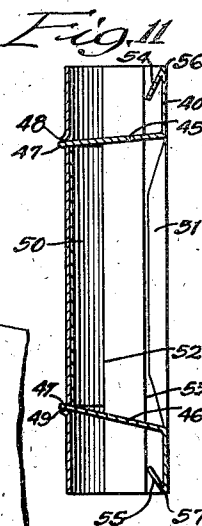
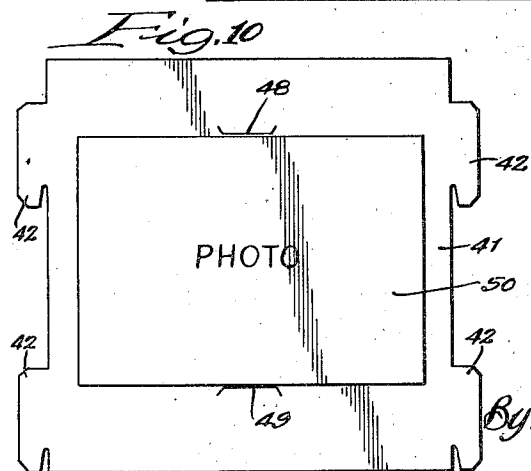
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PICTURE DISPLAY FRAME

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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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PICTURE DISPLAY FRAME

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2 Claims. (Cl. 40—152)

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This invention relates in general to a foldable frame structure made of thin sheet material such as stiff paper, cut, scored and folded to provide a recessed frame structure of the display type for containing pictures and presenting them in an attractive holder.

An important object of the invention is to provide a display frame structure formed of a single piece or a plurality of pieces having a front framed opening and a curved back to produce a shadow box effect.

A further object of the invention is to provide a display frame structure composed of foldable sheet material with a flat front having an opening therein and a curved back spaced from the opening, closed at the top of the structure and at the top and bottom of the front opening to simulate a dioramic box setting.

Still a further object of the invention is to provide a display frame structure composed of light weight sheet material scored and folded to form a shallow stage with a flat front and a curved back having a front opening with the top and bottom of the stage closed to the rounded back and with closed side portions, to resemble a small stage.

Still a further object of the invention is to provide a foldable display frame constructed of flat sheet material cut and scored so that it may be folded and connected to enclose a picture in a miniature stage structure having a front opening, a curved back on which the picture is mounted and inwardly extending portions to form a top and bottom for the stage and for the top of the display itself, the inwardly extending portions holding the back portions in distended display position.

Still a further object of the invention is to provide a display frame structure composed of flat sheet material which may be folded, connected and distended to provide a miniature stage-like structure having the rear edge cut away and provided with a foldable easel adapting the entire structure to be supported in upright position or at an angle.

Still a further object of the invention is to provide a display frame structure made of cut, scored and foldable sheet-like material which may be shipped or stored in flat condition to occupy a minimum of space but is adapted to be easily and readily set up to form the display frame desired.

Other objects of the invention will appear in the specification and will be apparent from the accompanying drawings in which

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a display frame structure in accordance with this invention in set-up or display position;

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the structure shown in Fig. 1 in a vertically up-right position;

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Fig. 3 illustrates the same structure in rearwardly inclined position;

Fig. 4 shows a sheet blank of which the structure shown in Fig. 1 is composed;

Fig. 5 is a sectional view taken on the line 5—5 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 6 is a sectional view taken on the line 6—6 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 7 illustrates a modified form of display frame similar to that of Fig. 1 but composed of two pieces;

Fig. 8 is a sectional view taken on the line 8—8 of Fig. 7;

Fig. 9 shows a sheet blank of the front plate of Fig. 7;

Fig. 10 shows a sheet blank of the back structure of Fig. 7; and

Fig. 11 is a sectional view taken on the line 11—11 of Fig. 7.

This frame structure is designed and intended to be constructed of rather stiff paper or thin cardboard having an outer colored face or design and adapted to enclose a picture such as a photograph on the front surface of the back plate which is then folded with respect to a display opening in the front plate so that it appears at the back of the display within an enclosed frame and thus giving a shadow box effect. A pleasing and finished effect is given to the structure by a top folding flap and by upper and lower flaps folded at the top and bottom of the stage respectively and by a side wing structure which closes the stage at the sides.

Referring now more particularly to the drawings, the display shown in Figs. 1 to 6 is constructed of a single blank of sheet material which is cut and scored to provide a front frame 15 with a frame opening 16, a back plate 17 hinged at one side thereof, a cover flap 18 hinged at the top of the frame and a fastening flap 19 at the other side of the frame. In the back plate are a number of upper and lower slits 20 each having angular extensions 21 at the ends to provide resilient tongues in the slits, the opposite upper and lower ones extending toward each other. These tongues define a picture plane against which the upper and lower edges of a picture such as a photograph 22 may be engaged and thereby held in place, or posted in the space thus defined.

Near the top of the back plate is a similar fastening slit 23 and at the free edge of the back plate are fastening slits 24 having angular extensions 25 at the ends to form resilient tongues in the slits. Projecting from the outer edge of the fastening flap 19 are overhanging or hooked tongues 26 adapted to be inserted in the slits 24 and moved endwise therein to engage the hooked portions at the ends of the slits for connecting the back plate in folded relation to the front frame, and the back plate being somewhat longer

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than the front frame so that there is looseness to permit the tongue and slot connection to be made between the parts.

Within the frame 15 the material of the opening is cut to form top and bottom flaps 27 and 28 joined by top and bottom hinge lines 29 and 30^a respectively. The free edge of each flap is rounded but has a central projection 30 and side projections 31 adapted to be inserted in the slits 20 of the back plate, to distend and hold the back plate rearwardly in a rounded or curved position and to close the space at the top and bottom of the opening between the front frame and the back plate. A picture 22 positioned by the edges of the tongues formed by slits 20 and extensions 21 is not disturbed by the insertion of projections 30 and 31, and a picture may be applied or inserted in this space against the back plate before or after the display is erected, and freely removed, the picture being additionally held in place by the arc or curvature of the back plate. At the top of the front frame the cover flap 18 is foldable rearwardly upon a hinge line 32 to extend over the rearwardly bowed back plate and the outer edge 33 of the flap is curved to conform to the curvature of the back plate. Extending from the central portion of the cover flap is a holding projection 34 preferably in the form of an arrowhead so that the point may be easily inserted through the fastening slit 23 of the back plate and with pointed side extensions 35 for engaging with the slit to hold the flap in the closed position.

At the bottom of the back plate is a curved shallow recess 36 with a central easel lug 37 extending in line with the bottom of front frame 15 so that the display structure when set up may be supported in upright position by the lug as shown in Fig. 2, or it may be bent inwardly or outwardly as shown in Fig. 3 to support the display in a slightly inclined position, or the lug may be partially bent at an intermediate angle to support the display at an intermediate inclined position.

Instead of making this display entirely of one piece, a two piece structure as shown in Figs. 7 to 11 may be provided having a front frame piece 40 and a back frame piece 41 which are connected by hooked tongues 42 at the ends of the back frame piece adapted to engage in slits 43 extending through flaps 44 hinged to the ends of the front frame piece. In the front frame piece is an opening having distending flaps 45 and 46 hinged to the top and bottom respectively of the opening and each with a central projection 47, forming tongues for engaging in slits 48 and 49 at the top and bottom respectively of the picture plane of the back frame piece to which a picture 50 may be secured. Narrow wing pieces 51 are hinged at the sides of the front frame opening and turned inwardly therein.

Each end flap 44 has fold lines 52 and 53 beyond the fastening slits 43, adapting it to be folded inwardly from the rear of the structure at the sides of the front frame opening to partially close the sides of the miniature stage thus presented, and the extremity of the edge flap which is foldable on the hinge line 53 being inclined inwardly away from the stage opening and this folded portion being met by the side wing 51 at each side of the opening to further decorate the front frame opening and to further resemble the side wings of a stage when the display is set up.

At the top and bottom of the front frame piece 75

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40 are stiffening flaps 54 and 55 hinged on fold lines 56 and 57 respectively and adapted to be turned inwardly at the respective inner edges of the front frame piece to engage the inwardly turned extremities of the side flaps 44 thus stiffening and strengthening the front frame piece and holding it in place with respect to the other portions of the display. The top flap 54 may be extended over the back frame piece and secured thereto as shown in Figs. 4 and 5 if desired thus presenting a neater and more finished appearance.

In both of these structures it will be noted that the fastening hooks for joining the front and back frame parts are inserted inwardly from the rear side thus producing a neat and finished appearance at the rear side of the display, the top and bottom distending flaps defining the upper and lower stage opening and in the form shown in Figs. 7 and 8 the stage opening is closed at the sides to provide an additional neat and finished appearance.

In both forms a picture is easily applied to the picture plane either before or after the display is set up, the picture being retained in place by the resilience and engagement of the parts or if desired the picture may be applied to the picture plane before the display is set up in distended or display position. A picture or other subject matter such as an advertisement or a calendar may be printed upon the picture plane and therefore visible through the front frame opening. It is also contemplated that the front may be a separate frame piece as of plastic, metal and the like to which the remaining structure may be joined as shown and described. Although the easel is not shown in the modified form it may be formed in the lower edge of the back frame piece as shown more clearly in Fig. 4.

By constructing this display frame of light sheet material it may thus be made simple, inexpensive, easily set up and pictures readily changed therein so that it is adapted as an advertising display piece having a wide use and application.

Various other changes may be made in the construction, combination and arrangement of the parts without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

I claim:

1. A display frame having an apertured front plate, a back plate, tongue and slit means for connecting the back plate and the front plate, the back plate also having slits defining a picture plane approximately the size of the front aperture, hinged flaps at the top and bottom of the aperture with rounded outer free edges having spaced projections to engage in the slits of the back plate to hold the front plate in the plane of the opening and curving the back plate with respect thereto, and a cover flap hinged at the top of the front plate curved at its outer edge to extend over the top of the back plate and having a projection at its outer free edge to extend downwardly over the rear plate and engageable with one of the slits therein to hold its flap in covering position.

2. A display frame having an apertured front plate, a back plate with a recessed lower edge having a bendable easel lug in the recess, means to connect the ends of the back plate to the ends of the front plate, and distending flaps hinged to the front plate and movable rearwardly to distend and hold the back plate in distended relation with respect to the front plate, the easel lug hold-

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ing the display in upright or rearwardly inclined position.

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